

BRADDOCK DISTRICT COUNCIL *NEWS*

October 2004

Internet Address: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/bos/bd/

Message from the Chair

At the September meeting of the Council, we learned about Canterbury Woods' experience with Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. For this issue, I want to highlight my own community, Oak Hill, where community action, political response, public stewardship and private generosity came together to benefit all of Braddock District and Fairfax County.

The subject of this story is *Oak Hill*, the last remaining home built by the Fitzhugh family, whose 24,000 acres, purchased in 1685, comprise today's Annandale community. *Oak Hill* was built in 1789 and is the oldest of three great homes built on the original property. The other two homes, Ossian Hall and Ravensworth, no longer exist. Last fall, the Oak Hill property was placed on the market for sale. Concerned about the future of this unique home, I called Supervisor Sharon Bulova to tell her about the sale and to express the concern on behalf of our community that *Oak Hill* be preserved for its historical significance and beauty.

Supervisor Bulova began working to find a way by which *Oak Hill* could be saved in total. With incredible perseverance and creativity, she brought together Seville Homes, the Fairfax County Park Authority, Northern Virginia Conservation Trust and Oak Hill Citizens' Association.

After months of negotiations, the Park Authority, Board of Supervisors and Northern Virginia Conservation Trust negotiated the purchase of an "historic easement" for *Oak Hill* from Seville Homes. For just 36% of the cost of buying the property, the Park Authority, the Trust, Braddock District and our community will benefit from an easement that will preserve the property and the history it represents forever!

The news gets better. Mr. Korfanta of Seville Homes nominated *Oak Hill* for historic preservation and on May 19, 2004, *Oak Hill* was placed on the National Register of Historic Places and its Historic and Conservation Easement was recorded on June 1, 2004! Mr. Korfanta was recognized by Supervisor Bulova and the Braddock District Council as this year's "Most Outstanding Business Person in the Braddock District."

Under the easement agreement, Mr. Korfanta will renovate the mansion for private sale and the property will not be subdivided for additional house lots. The grounds, with extensive boxwoods (visible from Braeburn Drive) dating from when the house was built, will be preserved and maintained.

All of us can take pride in this accomplishment. For our district, county and state, an important piece of history has been preserved and celebrated! We in Braddock District applaud our Supervisor, County representatives and staff, Seville Homes and the Trust for a job well done!

Janyce Hedetniemi, Chair

Next Meeting:

Workshop: How To Run a Community Association

Braddock District Council
October 12, 2004 7:30 PM
Braddock District Meeting Hall
9002 Burke Lake Road
Burke, VA 22015 (703)-425-9300

Future Meeting Dates:

November 9	May 10
December 14	June 14
January 11	July-recess
February 8	August-recess
March 8	September 13
April 12	

SUPERVISOR BULOVA'S CORNER

My first foray into public service, during the early 1980s, was through involvement with the Kings Park West Civic Association. I often tell the story of how I was lured into serving as vice president with assurances such as, "You'll never have to do anything. The president does all the work" and "It's no big deal, just one meeting a month." The next thing I knew, the president was reassigned to Korea, and I was left in charge. Our little board was faced with some of the staples of local government: a rezoning to develop an "infill" parcel of land (now Waverly Woods) imbedded in our neighborhood; construction of a portion of a road (Roberts Rd. from Commonwealth Blvd. to Braddock Rd.) through our community. And in addition to these larger issues, we faced the usual array of neighbor-to-neighbor conflicts.

Community association representatives share many commonalities. You communicate news to your neighbors via newsletters. You plan events that bring people together and build a sense of community. You make your voice heard, on behalf of your neighborhood, on things that are of concern to you. You essentially serve as the most grassroots level governing bodies of your communities.

I'm very excited about the plans of BDC Chair Jan Hedetniemi to provide a forum, at the October 12 BDC meeting, for community association representatives to share information with other members. How does everyone fund, publish and distribute their newsletters? What events are especially successful in drawing a good turnout? How have different communities resolved particularly difficult issues? How can the County help? I sure would have appreciated this kind of a forum when I first found myself holding the reins and feeling somewhat overwhelmed.

I look forward to seeing you at BDC meetings throughout the next year. I think you'll find that it's time well worth spending.

Sincerely,



Sharon Bulova

Braddock District Council News

from Jan Hedetniemi

Our September meeting provided members with information on two subjects: the Canterbury Woods Civic Association's experience with Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training and our Fairfax County Community Services Board activities.

For those of you not familiar with CERT, it is a program designed to train residents in emergency preparedness. The program involves 30 hours of training with classes once a week, three hours in duration. The program is directed by the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. The Canterbury Woods Web site has details about the program, but if you're interested in pursuing it for your community (Stone Haven has done just that), talk to Bob Mizer at 703-246-3926 or Colin Campbell at 703-766-3893.

The Community Services Board presentation served as a platform for a discussion about human services needs within the County—especially involving preventive programs in alcoholism, mental illness and substance abuse. Most importantly, the human services needs of the County gave us insight into why we are having Bond Referenda in the coming election.

As the Braddock District Representative to the Bond Referenda Committee, I plan to devote the better part of our October 12 meeting to a discussion of the bond referenda and what each involves. We will have guest speakers representing the areas covered by the bonds, which are:

- The human services bond question which asks voters to allow the county to borrow \$32.5 million for construction, renovation, and capital renewal of mental health and juvenile court facilities;
- The library bond question which asks voter to allow the county to borrow \$52.5 million to build two new library branches (including Burke) and renovate four branches;
- The park bond question which ask voters to allow the county to borrow \$75 million for use by the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority to acquire land, renovate existing facilities and develop new facilities, and;
- The transportation bond question which asks voters to allow the county to borrow \$165 million to fund the county's share of the Washington

Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's capital program and the county's four-year transportation plan, which includes pedestrian, highway and transit improvements.

I've always thought that there is no greater right or responsibility of being a citizen than to vote. I consider it an opportunity for the Braddock District Council to play a role in helping inform our community about the bond referenda and what they represent and so I urge you to attend the October 12 meeting and to bring guests with your communities.

Braddock Gang Dialogue brings Positive Outreach Programs:

Through a variety of newsletters and newspaper articles, Braddock District Council members have been kept up-to-date on the background of the many gang and violence prevention and intervention efforts in the Annandale area of the Braddock District. Those efforts are now intensifying, and there is specific information on a number of upcoming events.

On October 23, "Make a Difference Day," the youths who, this summer, attended the first annual Road Dawgs (**Don't Associate with Gangs**) Camp will be participating in a bowl-a-thon called "Bowling for Badges." The bowl-a-thon is being sponsored by the West Springfield Police Station, Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services (CRS), and a number of county human services agencies.

The purpose of "Bowling for Badges" is to raise funds for next year's camp and future camps in Fairfax County. The money raised during the bowl-a-thon will also be used for quarterly activities throughout the year. "Bowling for Badges is scheduled for **October 23 from 10 PM – 12 PM at Annandale Bowling Center**. After the bowl-a-thon, the youths will be going to Heritage Mall to participate in a clean up of the area.

Sponsors are needed to sponsor the youths who will be bowling that day. Funds raised will offset the cost of youths participating in the camp. The following are the "badge" sponsorship options:

Platinum Shield - \$1,500 (pays for five youths to be in the program);

Gold Shield - \$900 (pays for three youths to be in the program); or

Bronze Shield - \$300 or less (pays for the expenses of one child in the program).

Any community associations interested in sponsoring a bowler or otherwise supporting this initiative, please contact Evan Braff, CRS, at (703) 324-5650.

Youth Speak Outs

In addition to the bowl-a-thon, two "Youth Speak Outs on Gangs" will be held in Annandale in October. Supervisor Sharon Bulova is co-sponsoring these focus groups, along with the West Springfield Police Station, CRS and several county human services agencies. The "Speak Outs" are a forum for young people to provide feedback and suggestions about activities and programs that can be a positive influence and mitigate gang activity in their community.

These are the dates, locations and times for the "Speak Outs:"

October 18 - Annandale High School, 7-8:30 p.m.

October 27 - Annandale Terrace, 7-8:30 p.m.

If you are interested in donating door prizes or food for the event, please contact Evan Braff at (703) 324-5650.

Police Open House

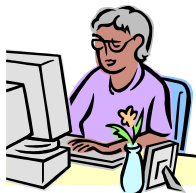
The West Springfield Police Station will be holding its annual open house on **Saturday, November 6**, not at the station, but at Heritage Mall on Heritage Drive in Annandale. This will be a great opportunity for the police department and other county agencies to get together with the community in a positive setting.

The West Springfield Police and Heritage Community Day will feature police exhibits, including the SWAT team and the helicopter unit. Other county agencies will also be setting up exhibits and distributing literature on county programs. In addition, there will be fun activities for the children, like a moon bounce and arts and crafts. Restaurants in Heritage Mall are being asked to provide a "Taste of Heritage" at the event.

These are very worthwhile activities that will benefit a significant portion of the Annandale community. In addition, it is important to remember that these are all pilot programs. If successful, they can be implemented in other parts of the Braddock District.

WINTER TOWN MEETING

ELDER ISSUES:



EXPANDING YOUR WORLD

**THROUGH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS
AND
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
FOR SENIORS**

February 9, 2005, 2 PM

Little River Glen Senior Center

The Braddock District Council of Community Associations (BDC) provides a forum for representatives of residential community associations to express their views on major issues of common concern. The BDC is a section 501(c)(4) non-profit corporation, with geographic boundaries coterminous with the Braddock magisterial district. Meetings of the BDC are open to representatives of all homeowner, tenant and civic associations in the Braddock District. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, except July and August. The mailing address is:

c/o Braddock Supervisor's Office
9002 Burke Lake Road
Burke, VA 22015-1608

The Office telephone is 703-425-9300.

Chair Janyce Hedetniemi
(Oak Hill)
703-978-8095

Vice chair Jeff Nolan
(BonnieBrae)
703-426-4761

Treasurer Ivan Dietrich
(Woods of Ilda)
703-323-1881

Supervisor Sharon Bulova's Braddock District

FALL TOWN MEETING

Wednesday, October 20th, 7:30 P.M.

**Kings Park Library
Community Room
9000 Burke Lake Road,
Burke, Virginia**

A LOOK BACK AT BRADDOCK

The Mini-series Begins!

**Overview of History
in the
Braddock District**

Preserving our History

**The Virginia Room
What's there and how do you use it?**

**A New Project
To Gather and Tell our History**

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination in all County programs, services and activities. Special accommodations/alternative information formats will be provided upon request. Call 703-324-3187, TTY 324-2935